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October 11, 2011

THE ANTHRAX FILES

FRONTLINE, ProPublica and McClatchy investigate the country's most notorious act of bioterrorism

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October 10, 2011, 11:59 pm

New Evidence Adds Doubt to FBI's Case Against Anthrax Suspect



October 10, 2011, 11:58 pm

Did Bruce Ivins Hide Attack Anthrax from the FBI?



October 10, 2011, 11:58 pm

Was FBI's Science Good Enough to ID Anthrax Killer?

THE LATEST



Exclusive: New Photos of Anthrax Suspect's Lab

January 30, 2012, 11:00 am ET · by Lauren Ezell

Rarely seen photos — obtained by FRONTLINE under the Freedom of Information Act — of Dr. Bruce Ivins' office, locker, the hot suite and the machine the FBI says he could have used to make the dried anthrax spores used in the attacks.

Government Settles Anthrax Suit for \$2.5 million



September 11, 2014 / 1:41 pm

Number of U.S. Air Strikes in Iraq Already Exceeds Those in Yemen, Somalia



September 9, 2014 / 9:04 pm

Map: How the Ebola Outbreak Spread through Africa



September 9, 2014 / 9:03 pm

MSF on Ebola: "This is the Biggest Outbreak We've Ever Known"



November 29, 2011, 6:48 pm ET · by [Mike Wiser](#) FRONTLINE; Greg Gordon, McClatchy Newspapers; and Stephen Engelberg, ProPublica

While denying negligence by one of its premier bio-weapons labs, the government has agreed to pay \$2.5 million to settle a wrongful death suit filed by survivors of the first fatality victim of the deadly 2001 anthrax mail attacks, court papers revealed Tuesday.



\$50 Million Anthrax Lawsuit Settled

October 31, 2011, 5:27 pm ET · by [Sarah Moughty](#)

“Justice has been served,” the lawyer for the family of Robert Stevens, the first victim of the 2001 anthrax attacks, told ... [Continue reading →](#)



The FBI Responds To “The Anthrax Files”

October 28, 2011, 7:27 pm ET · by [Mike Wiser](#) FRONTLINE; Tom Detzel, ProPublica

After editorials in The New York Times and The Washington Post called for new investigations into the 2001 anthrax attacks, the FBI issues a statement defending its conclusion that Army scientist Bruce E. Ivins was behind the letters that killed five people.



How Prepared is the U.S. For a Bioterrorism Attack?

October 27, 2011, 2:44 pm ET · by [Gretchen Gavett](#)

In mid-September 2001, a retired Air Force colonel successfully smuggled an anthrax-like substance into the White House. This warning could ... [Continue reading →](#)



Secret Reports: With Security Spotty, Many Had Access to Anthrax

October 25, 2011, 11:36 am ET · by [Greg Gordon](#) McClatchy, and Stephen Engelberg, ProPublica

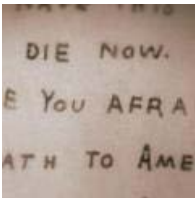
The Army laboratory identified by prosecutors as the source of the anthrax that killed five people in the fall of ... [Continue reading →](#)



Washington Post Calls for New Anthrax Investigation

October 24, 2011, 11:08 am ET · by [Sarah Moughty](#)

Last week it was the The New York Times; now The Washington Post has called for a review of the ... [Continue reading →](#)



NYT Calls for New Anthrax Investigation

October 18, 2011, 9:55 am ET · by [Sarah Moughty](#)

Evidence that Dr. Bruce Ivins is the anthrax killer is looking “increasingly shaky” says a New York Times editorial published ... [Continue reading →](#)



Live Chat: Inside the FBI's Anthrax Investigation

October 12, 2011, 11:00 am ET

Read the full transcript of our live chat with “Anthrax Files” reporters Mike Wiser (FRONTLINE), Stephen Engleberg (ProPublica), and Greg Gordon (McClatchy).

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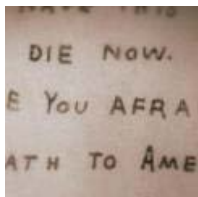
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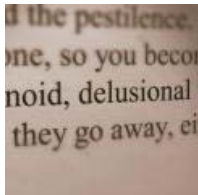
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[“A Chilling Report on Several Fronts”](#)

October 11, 2011, 1:48 pm ET · by Sarah Moughty

That's The Baltimore Sun's David Zurawik on The Anthrax Files, our season premiere airing tonight on PBS (check local listings or watch it ... [Continue reading →](#)



[The Anthrax Files: The Essential Documents](#)

October 10, 2011, 11:57 pm ET

FRONTLINE closely examined more than 27,000 pages of FBI documents for this investigation. Here are some of the key documents ... [Continue reading →](#)



[The Bruce Ivins I Knew](#)

October 10, 2011, 11:56 pm ET

A goofball scientist, practical joker or a man with a “dark side”? How people who knew him remember Dr. Bruce Ivins...



[Rachel Lieber: The Case Against Dr. Bruce Ivins](#)

October 10, 2011, 11:55 pm ET

Because of his suicide, Assistant U.S. Attorney Rachel Lieber never got a chance to try her case against Dr. Bruce Ivins in front of a jury, but she is confident she could have convicted him for the anthrax attacks. Here she tells FRONTLINE how she would have done it.



[Edward Montooth: “The Mandate Was to Look at the Case With Fresh Eyes”](#)

October 10, 2011, 11:54 pm ET

In 2006, Montooth was brought in to shake up the FBI's investigation of the anthrax attacks. He says he's “very comfortable” with the evidence that Dr. Bruce Ivins was the perpetrator: “What we see today is exactly what we wanted to avoid. We wanted a trial so that the public could see it and make their own informed decision. With that suicide, ultimately when he died, that took it away.”



[Nancy Haigwood: “I Had a Gut Feeling It Was Bruce”](#)

October 10, 2011, 11:53 pm ET

Dr. Bruce Ivins developed an interest in Haigwood in the 1970s, when the two were graduate students at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. His interest became more intense when he found out that Haigwood was a member of the Kappa Kappa Gamma sorority. In early 2002, Haigwood contacted the FBI about her suspicions that Ivins might be involved in the anthrax attacks.



[Claire Fraser-Liggett: “This Is Not an Airtight Case By Any Means”](#)

October 10, 2011, 11:53 pm ET

Director of the Institute for Genome Sciences, Fraser-Liggett was brought into the investigation to try to trace the DNA found in the anthrax attack letters back to its source material. Based on her team's research, the FBI zeroed in on a flask controlled by Dr. Bruce Ivins. But while Fraser-Liggett believes the scientific evidence is “very solid,” she is not convinced the government has made its case against Ivins.



Paul Keim: “We Were Surprised It Was the Ames Strain”

October 10, 2011, 11:51 pm ET

In October 2001, Northern Arizona University microbiologist Dr. Paul Keim identified that the anthrax used in the attack letters was the Ames strain, a development he described as “chilling” because that particular strain was developed in U.S. government laboratories.



Dig Deeper: The Anthrax Investigation

October 10, 2011, 11:50 pm ET · by Azmat Khan

More on accused Army biodefense researcher, Dr. Bruce Ivins, and exonerated scientist Dr. Steven Hatfill.



Exclusive: The Intern Who Opened an Anthrax Letter

October 10, 2011, 12:30 pm ET · by Sarah Moughty

For years, she hid her strange place in American history. “I didn’t want to be known as Grant Leslie, the girl who got anthrax.”



The Anthrax Attacks: 10 Years Later

October 3, 2011, 2:25 pm ET · by Sarah Moughty

Ten years ago this week, Florida photo editor Bob Stevens died shortly after being diagnosed as having inhaled anthrax. Hours ... [Continue reading →](#)



Sen. Grassley Asks DOJ to Explain Contradictory Actions on Anthrax Probe

September 2, 2011, 6:45 pm ET · by Mike Wiser FRONTLINE; Greg Gordon, McClatchy Newspapers; Stephen Engelberg, ProPublica

WASHINGTON — A senior Republican senator has asked the Justice Department to explain why its civil lawyers filed court papers ...

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Judge Allows Feds to Revise Filing in Anthrax Case

July 29, 2011, 7:18 pm ET · by Mike Wiser FRONTLINE; Greg Gordon, McClatchy Newspapers; and Stephen Engelberg, ProPublica

The Justice Department initially asserted flatly that Army researcher Bruce Ivins, whom the FBI accused of manufacturing the anthrax, lacked the “specialized equipment” needed to produce the deadly powder at a U.S. bio-weapons lab.



Judge Blocks DOJ Anthrax Reversal

July 27, 2011, 8:12 pm ET · by Mike Wiser FRONTLINE; Greg Gordon, McClatchy Newspapers; and Stephen Engelberg, ProPublica

It’s unclear whether the ruling will lead to further disclosures about the FBI’s case against alleged anthrax suspect Bruce Ivins.

Government Anthrax Flip-Flop Could Boost Victims’ Lawsuit

July 20, 2011, 6:40 pm ET · by Mike Wiser FRONTLINE; Greg Gordon, McClatchy Newspapers; and Stephen Engelberg, ProPublica

WASHINGTON — Waffling by Justice Department lawyers in a wrongful death lawsuit arising from the deadly 2001 anthrax attacks



could ... [Continue reading](#) →



Justice Department Retracts Statements on Anthrax Lab

July 19, 2011, 7:39 pm ET · by [Mike Wiser](#) FRONTLINE; Greg Gordon, McClatchy Newspapers; and Stephen Engelberg, ProPublica

WASHINGTON — Rushing into court to undo a major blunder, Justice Department lawyers defending a civil suit Tuesday retracted statements ... [Continue reading](#) →



New Documents Cast Doubt on Federal Anthrax Case

July 18, 2011, 7:36 pm ET · by [Mike Wiser](#) FRONTLINE; Greg Gordon, McClatchy Newspapers; and Stephen Engelberg, ProPublica

WASHINGTON — The Justice Department has called into question a key pillar of the FBI's case against Bruce Ivins, the ... [Continue reading](#) →

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A. Castella · 3 years ago

A much needed look at the anthrax attack, but disappointing that the political context from 9/11 onward was not examined. There are a lot of 'dots' that you did not connect, or even mention. WMD, including anthrax spread with crop dusters or 'drones of death' cropped up in the news right after 9/11. These fears were used by the Bush administration to help pass the 2002 Iraq Use of Force Resolution invasion and war in Iraq. We found out later, Iraq had no WMD or anthrax.

Also, is it coincidence that the Bush White House started on anti-anthrax CIPRO on 9/11/2001? <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/A...>

Richard Cohen of the Washington Post did also, as he wrote on Slate in 2008 "The (anthrax) attacks were not entirely unexpected. I had been told soon after Sept. 11 to secure Cipro, the antidote to anthrax. The tip had come in a roundabout way from

a high government official, and I immediately acted on it. I was carrying Cipro way before most people had ever heard of it."

<http://www.slate.com/articles/...>

The first letter was mailed on 9/18/2001, why the anthrax hysteria after 9/11?

Why did so many 'in the know' start on CIPRO before the attack? The anthrax did not claim it's first victim until the first week of October, 2001. Are we to believe, that with the war drums pounding, another dead 'lone gunman' culprit with ill-defined motives, weak circumstantial evidence, who also denied involvement while alive was the sole culprit in this terror attack? Who really benefited from the anthrax attack, and why did the FBI not look beyond the small group of government scientists who were aiding in it's investigation?

17    Share ›



Johnny > A. Castella · 3 years ago

Here are some of the problems I had with this episode:

1. You cannot rule out Dr. Iivins. You absolutely CANNOT rule him out. I would say the strongest piece of evidence concerns his conduct after the incident in the meeting with prosecutors & the FBI. His answers were bizarre. You CANNOT rule out Dr. Bruce Ivins. However, did we investigate if the Ames strain existed elsewhere in the world? Was it ever given to the Russians? Other foreign government?
2. Dr. Ivins may have been the only person with "mental health" issues related to the 100 or so people who had access to the particular strain that caused this crisis, but we don't know that & are not told that is so. Nor do we know the extent which those other 100 people were investigated right when the act occurred. I mean, everyones homes thoroughly checked for this strain immediately following its discovery. Solved?
3. Did we detect suspicious activity in any other way around the time of the incident(s) in question?
4. Why the prosecutions emphasis on finding spores in the home of Dr. Ivins? It seems to suggest there is hardly any way for that to be the case, but a man of his knowledge should be able to make that happen. Especially if the search existed long after the manufacturing of the lethal strain.

   Share ›



ccridier27 · 3 years ago

Really great episode. This is why Frontline is the best show on TV hands down.

I think the crowing cherry on top of this episode comes in the final interview with Rachel Lieber, which begins at 50:56. She enumerates all of the circumstantial pieces (which have all just been totally shot down). She says 'its not just this and not just that....' and then something really odd happens for those who understand body language.

At 51:06, she continues "It's the confluence of all these things taken together THAT IS THE COMPELLING EVIDENCE." During the words in all caps, she casts her eyes away from the camera.

Then at 51:12 "...you realize that THIS IS THE RIGHT PERSON" Again casting her eyes down when uttering the words in all caps.

Not even she truly believed Ivins did it.

Great job guys!!!

12   • Share ›



Gordon > ccrider27 • 3 years ago

Great you noticed that too!

3   • Share ›



H. Cash • 3 years ago

The spore samples in question originated at the Army's Utah Dugway "Biodefense" labs before they went to USAMRIID. An old report (<http://www.8newsnow.com/story/...>) claims that the FBI knew the Dugway lab could grow, dry, and mill (grind) the spores producing product identical to the attack powder. The facility was also involved in creating a supposedly mock mobile biowarfare production lab similar to the diagrams of a trailer the Bush administration claimed that Iraq had used for that purpose before it was shown to be a weather research station bought from the Brits. Dr. Hatfill had worked on designing that "mock-up" which was a big reason the FBI stalked him for 5 years. This all points to the production of the attack powder as part of an approved but highly illegal project at Dugway which if exposed would force the US under Biowarfare Treaty obligations to try the entire chain of command, no matter how high it went, as war criminals. So much easier to go after some mad scientists than to decimate military and civilian DOD ranks.

10   • Share ›



daffodilly • 3 years ago

At the time of the attacks, there were questions about the exposure of Kathy Nguyen a Vietnamese emigrant living in the Bronx and working at a New York hospital. Her death along with that of a 94 yr old widow Otilie Lundgren living in Oxford Cn begged more intense investigation because, at the time, there was no connection between the postal workers, government workers or media personnel who were exposed and these two women. What was the extent of the investigation into the deaths of these two since they did lie so far outside the other victims?

9   • Share ›



David Craig Digitaldave • 3 years ago

The hours of dedication this man gave in the lab was used against him...You also reported that in lew of the time needed to make this was impossible, given the time he spent in the lab working on other projects. And how about the ransacking of him and his families vehicles and dwellings. Nothing was ever found. The FBI and the United States government is guilty, not this man.

7   • Share ›



Barry Weiss · 3 years ago

Another gov't screw up!! When are we going to get things right in this country. We the people are sick of stalled gov't; inept politicians; failed gov't; failing economy and the inability to compromise and create a welfare that is for the people. The rich get richer and the rest of us chase our tails. God help our children.
Barry

5 · Share ›



Bill · 3 years ago

Read "American Anthrax" by Jeanne Guillemin and then watched "The Anthrax Files" the following week. Then tried to analyze the facts as if I was on a Jury.

1. Any mention of Anthrax being found outside of a BSL-3 containment area is irrelevant to the Anthrax Letters and simply a result of someone not following established safety protocols when removing material from a biocontainment suite.
2. Everything that is mentioned about Dr. Ivins personality, drinking, unusual travel habits, strange e-mails, pistols and target range cannot be directly connected to the Anthrax Letters. These facts being brought to the surface by the investigation probably can be considered as a contributing factor to his suicide. I see that as similar to the suicides that have been in the news lately caused by e-mails being distributed that expose the hidden behaviors of individuals to the public. Regardless of the long standing behaviors uncovered during this investigation Dr. Ivins was a high functioning individual with no evidence of his personality causing him problems with law enforcement.
3. I believe there is absolutely no connection between Dr. Ivins dislike of Kappa Kappa Gamma and the Anthrax Letters. He apparently had a long standing dislike

[see more](#)

4 · Share ›



Richardxrowley · 3 years ago

Couple people asked about the handwriting (Ivins' vs. that of the letters). This is something that has interested me for some time. The letters are available online: go here (UCLA dept of epidemiology site) and scroll all the way down. THEN select letter/envelope desired to degree of magnification desired. Samples of Ivins writing (printing) are ALSO available online but more spread out over different sites/entries. One is here:

<http://caseclosedbylewweinstei...>

And at the same site:

<http://caseclosedbylewweinstei...>

My conclusion (based on comparison of UPPER CASE samples of Ivins' normal printing vs the letters) is that it's a really poor match.

3 · Share ›



dmazzy99 · 3 years ago

--First, the FBI shouldn't have been so quick to get on the "Kristoff Bandwagon". Why were there no writing samples/comparisons done on the first suspect & Ivans?

--Second, Why not give the samples to the Natl. Academy first for independent verification BEFORE concluding one suspect or another?

--Third, why be so quick to start the investigation in such a manner as to look at one person? How about starting with a much larger pool of suspects that work in Bio Hazard killing agents thus leading to more thorough comb of possible leads.

--Fourth, no reporting or investigation into claims that the spore samples in question originated at the Army's Utah Dugway "Biodefense" labs before they went to USAMRIIDFB capable of growing the spores producing product identical to the attack powder.

--Fifth, why no investigation into the deaths of two women in NYC who had no connection between the postal workers, government workers or media personnel who were exposed? They were far outside the other victims.

Another government mess. Ladies & Gentleman of America, we are in serious trouble. Debt & Deficits beyond fixing. Red tape riddled government agencies who can't get things right. A congress that only acts in the interests of Wall Street

see more

3   • Share ›



Gregory • 3 years ago

Why didn't the FBI/Postal Investigators examine Ivins hand writing and compare it with the writing on the anthrax letter?

Also, why is it so hard for the FBI to piece together an alibi for Ivins - especially during the mailings of the anthrax letter? If Ivin's made the short trip to the mail drop box, he must have had to fill his car up with gas (before or after). Did he use credit/debit cards that day? What did his purchases look like for gas during that month / year?

What did Ivins family think? And I wish the FBI would have explained Ivins motive for sending these letters off? Did he have a secret history of loathing the government for which he worked for?

This was another fantastic episode by Frontline / Propublica.. Thank you.


P.S. How about a news piece on the death of the American dream?

3   • Share ›



Charlie Crummer • 3 years ago

The FBI should have been constantly consulting with the National Academy of Sciences throughout this investigation. A bunch of amateur scientists put together a case without consulting the experts until after the death of Dr. Ivins. The best they can say now is, "Well, he COULDA done it."

3   • Share ›



Jlcda • 3 years ago

One of the frightening observations is that one can see Chris Christie in the background when John Ashcroft is implicating Hatfield without any evidence or support. Mr. Christie has a stunned look on his face which persists for several

minutes throughout John Ashcroft's statements which falsely imply that Mr. Hatfield was involved.

How can Mr. Christie even consider the presidency when he can not stand up and choose not to participate in this farce. As the Chief US attorney for the New Jersey District he knew there was nothing here to implicate Mr. Hatfield. Mr. Christie is all blow and no substance. Mr. christie can not be relied upon. As a President he will have to stand up and make decisions. Cabinet members make difficult decisions. Presidents make impossible decisions and have to stand alone when these impossible decisions are made. Mr. Christie fails the test.

3   • Share ›



dylan111 • 3 years ago

This show was only one hour, and while I usually appreciate the quality of Frontline investigations, I think that the producers did not present a full profile of Bruce Ivins. This past summer, just by chance, I happened to pick up a book at the library, Mirage Man by David Willman. This very detailed and deeply researched account of the anthrax case gives a full biography of Ivins, and it is very clear that he was an extremely troubled man, albeit a good scientist. One of the facts left out here is that Ivins was very worried prior to 9/11 that proposed cuts by the Bush administration would mean that USAMRIID would have to cut employees, and that his position was in jeopardy. Of course if there was a bioweapons attack, the FBI would need the help of USAMRIID scientists.

In addition the kinds of very strange attacks on various women that Dr. Ivins made throughout his career were truly disturbing, evidence of a very trouble psyche. Further, David Willman provides very detailed evidence that the contents of the letters sent match Ivins' mindset as far as politics is concerned. He was a very right-wing, ultra-conservative, whose wife was the head of the local right to life movement. He hated the media and liberal politicians; therefore, it's not surprising Tom Brokaw and Tom Dasche were both sent letters. He also had a weird obsession with the tabloid press; don't forget that the first anthrax letter was sent to The National Enquirer and killed the man who opened it.

I am not shilling for this book; however, you would have to go a long way to show me convincing evidence that he is not guilty. While the scientific evidence may not be conclusive, there are many other factors that point to his guilt. I am not a big fan of the FBI, I think that this time they got it right.

2   • Share ›



Jazzaloha > dylan111 • 3 years ago

Some of these claims (e.g., Ivins' concerns for budget cuts, politics, etc.) would be more compelling--although not sufficient--reasons for Dr. Ivins' guilt. I would have liked to have seen Frontline address these concerns.

On the other hand, I must ask the question: why wouldn't the prosecutor and FBI mention these bits of information? They seem more compelling than any of the so-called evidence mentioned in the program.

  • Share ›

Elord • 3 years ago



It is nice to see the FBI tactics in closing cases, has not changed much in 20 years. Intimidation, surveillance, questioning in an isolated environment awaiting a break in the case. Each of these tactics is increased during the investigation depending on pressure from within the agency, or the press from the outside. I guess the old adage is true, the FBI for an operation puts their memorandum on top of your.

2 • Share ›



Info • 3 years ago

The weakness in this otherwise exceptional story is its omission of the role President Bush played in the debacle. He put extreme pressure on quite a number of people and government departments, usually with the same, disastrous results; e.g., Colin Powell and George Tenet.

2 • Share ›



[gulfwarmonger](#) • 3 years ago

Calling Congressional offices in morning over this.

2 • Share ›



[John Bachmurski](#) • 3 years ago

If Ivins had done it the KKG Sorority would have been one of his targets, the FBI needed a scapegoat and his death gave them that. It's all the "proof" they needed, and all we'll ever get, so I guess it's case closed on the matter. So much for truth and justice as far as the FBI is concerned.

1 • Share ›



Gordon • 3 years ago

Great show so far. It needs a part two and perhaps three me thinks. Couple of questions for the new episodes: who benefited from the hysteria created by the anthrax attacks right after the 9/11 attacks (even sending it to the National Enquirer for added hysterics, nice touch)? Who would have been so informed of coming events to time it so perfectly after 9/11? Who had the manpower (as it took more than one person, in a state of the arts facility, that only a major state manufacturer of illegal bio weapons would have) to pull this off? Otherwise, how did Dr Ivins spend months and months every night (as it would have taken him that long with the inadequate equipment he would have been obliged to work with, to produce this quantity of quality weaponized anthrax) making his powder without any one noticing him doing it, and miraculously no alarm bell spores going everywhere, making everyone sick, that he could not have possibly controlled in his location where the drying equipment was located in the lab? Would the folk (if it were not Ivins) who were the real culprits, having the technical sophistication they possessed, have not wanted to cover their tracks by having a couple of likely suspects, whose emails and life/movements would have been carefully studied and researched at length to create red herrings? Just a thought, I'm sure there are some logical explanations for all this.

1   • Share ›



jam383 • 3 years ago

Thank god they solved the case of the missing Gamma Gamma cipher book now if only they did the same for the anthrax case.

1   • Share ›



H. Cash • 3 years ago

Whether the spores had silicon in or on the surface layers is a big deal. For some reasons why, please see <http://my.firedoglake.com/jimw...> . Yet another way the bacteria could pick up silicon which would be incorporated into the spore structure was by growth in a glass lined fermenter. This expensive and rarely used equipment might shed silica into the growth medium and metal contaminants from the glass making would be expected to be present also. Or if the glass lining was old and had micro pits the underlying metal would contribute metal ions. But all this just points to the same conclusion I posted here a few days ago: Spores grown, dried and milled at Dugway in illegal trials that violated international anti-biowarfare treaties and US laws were taken by person or persons unknown from that site and used to attack innocent Americans. And they are still free.

1   • Share ›



Courtney Solen • 3 years ago

Two problems that need to be vetted with this case:

1. What if the Ames strain is not just here in the U.S. and is the pivotol part of the problem with the FBI case. The U.S. sold and/or gave bioweapons technology Nerve gas and Anthrax to several nations (i.e. Iraq for Iran/Iraq War for example), though not officially or officially I could not say. Atleast that is what I grew up hearing. I am surprised they are so certain about the location of the Anthrax coming from the U.S. without first making sure that the Ames strain is only found in the U.S. Of course that might take access to other government departmental records. Sure, the Ames strain originated here in the U.S., but did it stay here in the U.S. only?

2a. Was the source of the weapon at USAMRIID only? I grew up around Dugway, UT. Things were smuggled or would go missing all the time from the area and this is the area these things were developed, tested, destroyed. Not too mention that people in the area are poor, you could probably find someone vulnerable or willing for a little extra cash to get you what you might want. The place is huge and wide open, sparsely populated. Remember this stuff has been around for a long time and could have been stolen decades ago and developed elsewhere, only to pop back up in the U.S.

2b. Or someone locally did do it, but the source could have been a number of facilities, not just the lab in Frederick, MD. If it was the lab only, could not someone decades ago have done the same thing, stolen or bought some of the strain to develop.

Personally I find senario number 1, the more likely as it is the simplest. I believe these questions need to be looked at.

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